

BOROUGH OF BRACKLEY.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR 1961.

ARTHUR LUCAS
L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Borough of Brackley.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the
year 1961.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Brackley.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1961.

The vital statistics generally are satisfactory but the infant mortality rate is high. One regrets to note the poor attendance at the infant welfare clinic when many of those held in the larger villages have a much larger attendance. As will be seen from this report there were three infant deaths under one year of age which may have been avoided by earlier advice and attention.

Your obedient Servant,

Arthur Lucas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.,
D.P.H. Medical Officer of Health

November 1961.

Public Health Committee.

Councillor R.J.Staniforth (Chairman) Councillor F.S.Cook (Vice Chairman)
The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor P.H.E.Smith Alderman C.J.Rose,
Alderman Mrs. P.A.Simons, Alderman J. Tweedale Councillors A.J.Alcock,
E.G.Forrester Mrs. R.M.Heverly, E.A.Tutton, Mrs. G.N.Holts and J.M. Harry.

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health: Arthur Lucas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of:-

Medical Officer of Health, Brackley Rural District Council

Medical Officer of Health, Towcester Rural District Council

Medical Officer of Health, Northampton Rural District Council

Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Northamptonshire County Council

Public Health Inspector: Clifford Morgan, C.R.S.H., who also holds the appointment of Borough Surveyor.

Summary of Vital Statistics, 1961

Area of Borough (Acres)...	...	...	...	...	...	1,685
Population, estimated, mid-year	...	...	...	...	...	3,380
Number of inhabited houses, end of 1961	...	...	...	...	...	1,018
Rateable Value of Borough 1st October 1961..	...	...	...	...	...	£37,210
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£152

Extract from Vital Statistics for the year

<u>Live Births:</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Eng. & Wales</u>
Legitimate...	35	26	61	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated pop.			18.0	17.4

Still-Births: There were no still-births recorded during the year. The rate for the administrative County is 16.3 and that for England and Wales 18.7

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths (all causes)...	27	12	39
Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	11.5	Eng.& Wales	12.0
Deaths from puerperal causes:-			
Puerperal sepsis...	...	...	nil
Other puerperal causes...	...	...	nil

Infant Mortality:

Deaths of infants under one year of age...	...	...	3
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)...	..	...	4
Deaths from measles	...	...	nil
Deaths from whooping cough	...	...	nil
Deaths from diarrhoea	...	...	nil
Deaths from pregnancy, child-birth or abortion..	...	...	nil

Area: There was no change during the year in the administrative area of the Borough which remains at 1,685 acres.

Population The resident mid-year population of the Borough as estimated by the Registrar-General was 3,380 and increase of 190 on the previous year and the vital statistics are based on this figure

Deaths: The total number of deaths assigned to the Borough by the Registrar-General after adjusting for inward and outward transferable deaths is 39. The death-rate calculated on the mid-year estimated population is 11.5 as compared with 11.18 for the administrative County of Northamptonshire and 12.0 for England and Wales.

A table giving a list of the causes of death in the Borough for the year under review classified under the various causes is given on page 3.

Births: The number of births which occurred in the Borough for the year was 61. This is equivalent to a birth-rate of 18.0. The rate for the administrative County was 18.04 and that for England and Wales 17.4.

Infant Mortality: There were 3 infant deaths under one year recorded during the year under review. This is equivalent to an infant mortality rate of 49.1, the rate for the County was 17.61 and that for England and Wales 21.4. The following table gives the birth-rate, death-rate and infant mortality rate for the Borough the administrative County and England and Wales for the past five years:-

Year	Birth-rate			Death-rate			Infant Mortality rate		
	Brackley Borough	Northamptonshire	England & Wales	Brackley Borough	Northamptonshire	England & Wales	Brackley Borough	Northamptonshire	England & Wales
1957	15.5	17.03	16.10	14.20	10.97	11.5	62.5	22.53	23.0
1958	19.6	16.9	16.4	7.7	11.1	11.7	nil	19.7	22.5
1959	15.3	16.6	15.2	12.4	10.77	11.1	62.5	20.2	22.6
1960	15.3	17.7	17.1	7.8	10.88	11.5	nil	22.57	21.7
1961	18.0	18.04	17.4	11.5	11.18	12.0	49.1	17.61	21.4

Registered Causes of Death, 1961.

Causes						Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
2	Tuberculosis, other forms...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
8	Measles...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases					-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...			-	1	1
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...				1	-	1
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast..	...	...			-	1	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus..	...	...			-	-	-
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms					1	-	1
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
16	Diabetes..	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...				3	1	4
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
19	Hypertension with heart disease..	...				1	-	1
20	Other heart disease.	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
21	Other circulatory disease...	...	...	...	...	-	2	2
22	Influenza..	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia..	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
24	Bronchitis.	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
25	Other disease of respiratory system...					-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...			-	-	-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...				-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
30	Pregnancy, child-birth, abortion.	...				-	-	-
31	Other defined and ill-defined diseases					6	1	7
32	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
35	Suicide.	...	...	...	...	1	-	1
36	Homicide and operations of War...	...				-	-	-
All causes...						27	12	39

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities: The examination of pathological specimens and samples of water is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford. The service is free and Medical Practitioners in the Borough submit pathological specimens direct to the laboratory.

Ambulance Facilities: Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are removed and treated at the Isolation Hospitals at Northampton or Oxford.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade continued to operate their service during the year. The service operates under contract with the Hospital Management Authority and was available for the removal to hospital of surgical and non-infectious cases. The service, which is available by day and night, is free and is a great asset to residents of the Borough and surrounding area.

Treatment Centres and Clinics: The Infant Welfare Clinic continued to operate during the year and sessions were held on the Second Thursday of every month at the Womens Institute, Manor Road, Orthopaedic Clinics, Vision Clinics and Dental Clinics for School Children which are organised by the County Council operated during the year under review. Preventive and after-care services for tuberculosis cases are administered by the County Council.

Nursing in the Home: The County Council operate a complete service within the Borough and "Home Helps" are available in connection with the infirm or chronic cases treated at home. The "After-Care" Committee which was established during the year 1955, continued to operate, and a body of willing workers organised efforts to obtain funds, and collect clothing for distribution to those in need.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply: As I stated in my Report for 1960, the Busks Water Board took over the Borough's water undertaking on 1st April, 1960, and all plant, water mains etc., were vested in the Board from that date. The supply of water to the Borough was sufficient and from the results of samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination, wholesome.

Sewage Disposal: The Sewage disposal works comprising two filter beds, two sedimentation tanks sludge and humas lagoons and electrical plant for lifting the level of one outfall sewer, continued to function fairly satisfactory. With the exception of thirty-one houses in outlying parts of the district where levels will not permit connection with the system of the sewers, all premises are connected to the sewerage.

The works continued to receive the trade effluent from the Fatstock Marketing Corporation's broiler factory established in the Borough in 1959.

Extensions and improvements to the Sewage works commenced at the end of the year 1960, were nearly completed during the year under review.

Rivers and Streams: No complaints were received regarding pollution of the River Ouse into which the effluent from the sewage works discharges.

Camping Sites: There are no camping sites in the Borough.

Smoke Abatement: No action was found necessary in connection with the smoke abatement.

Swimming Pool: The swimming pool owned by the Council was used during the year and was filled once with water from the Council's mains. The sand filter and plant continued to operate satisfactorily and the water was clear throughout the season. The water is chlorinated by a drip feed.

Eradiction of bed bugs: No action was found necessary in connection with premises infested with bed bugs.

Public Cleansing: House refuse was collected weekly using direct labour and a "Bantam" Karrier covered refuse collecting vehicle. One part of the Borough was covered on Thursdays and the other on Fridays. A tractor and covered trailer was purchased during March of the year under review to augment the "Bantam" Karrier. The refuse is disposed of by tipping at a point in the Borough where no nuisance is caused.

Rodent Control: A part-time rodent control operator is employed to carry out this work. The services of the operator continued to be free to householders who readily report the presence of rodents in and around their premises. A charge is made for the treatment of business premises. Warfarin with oatmeal base continued to give satisfactory results. The total number of inspections made during the year was as follows:-

Local authority premises...	2
Dwelling houses..	17
All other, including business premises...	5
Agricultural holdings	2
Total...	26

The number of minor infestations found was 23 ; these were treated with good results. Baits are regularly laid at the refuse tip and sewage works and if found necessary treated with poison. The total number of treatments was 135.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

Number of visits and inspections:-

Visits and inspections at slaughter-house...	115
Inspections of butchers' shops..	20
Inspections of bakehouses..	10
Inspections of meat hawkers' vans...	12
Inspections of fried fish shops. ...	10
Inspections of other food shops. ...	45
Inspections in connection with rodent control ...	135
Inspections of factories and workshops..	20
Housing inspections...	110
Number of old drainages tested..	4
Number of new drainages tested..	8

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The total number of Council houses built since the War is 208. The number of private enterprise houses completed during the year was 8 and there were 8 under construction at the end of December.

Site preparation for the erection of 50 Council dwellings and 38 garages were commenced during March of the year; 50 dwellings were under construction at the end of the year. The dwellings comprise five blocks, three 3 storey and two 4 storey, and provides for 14 aged peoples' one bed flats and 36 three bedroom maisonettes.

Slum Clearance: During the year four Closing Orders were made in connection with 24 dwellings which have been scheduled as unfit for human habitation. These were included in a statement submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in 1955 as being unfit for habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 and warranting action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Improvement Grants: The Council do not operate the provisions of the Housing Act relating to improvement grants whereby grants are available towards the cost of additional amenities provided by the owners to their property. The Act provides for a grant of half the cost of the amenities provided subject to a maximum of £400. The provisions of the House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 relating to "Standard Grants" which are obligatory on the part of the Council make available to owners grants for providing any or all of the five standard amenities in their houses. The dwelling after improvement must be equipped with all five amenities, that is a fixed bath or shower, wash basin, water closet, hot water supply and satisfactory facilities for storing food. If all five amenities are provided the maximum grant is £1 55 or one half of the total cost whichever is the less. Two applications were received for this Grant during the year and the total grants involved was £310.

SECTION E.INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply: The number of retailers in the Borough is 3 who hold supplementary licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested, Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised and Pasteurised Milk. All milk retailed in the Borough is produced outside the area.

Food Hygiene Regulations: The Regulations provide for the cleanliness of food premises, hygienic methods of handling food, the cleanliness of persons engaged in the food trade and the action to be taken when they suffer from or are carriers of certain infections. There are 24 food shops in the Borough where food is sold, served or prepared for sale. The shops are regularly visited and a high standard of cleanliness is maintained.

Meat and Other Foods: The licenced slaughter-house continued to operate during the year. The numbers of animals slaughtered were as follows:-

Bovines...	...	...	...	...	...	277
Sheep and lambs	...	...	...	...	...	1155
Pigs.	...	...	...	...	...	273
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	14

Regular visits were made to the slaughter-house for inspection, and the approximate weight of meat and offal found to be diseased and unfit for consumption was 12½ cwts.

Diseased meat and offal were regularly collected by a reputable merchant for further utilisation.

The following foodstuffs were also voluntarily surrendered being unfit for consumption.

Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	...	12 lbs
Apricots...	...	...	...	...	...	7 lbs
Crushed Pineapple...	...	...	...	...	...	6¾ lbs

Food and Drugs Act, 1955: The provisions of this Act relating to the nature and substance of food supplied to the public are operated by the County Council. Mr. A.E. Waller the Chief Inspector, to whom I am indebted, has supplied the following schedule of samples taken in the Borough during the year under review all of which were entirely satisfactory for the fourth successive year:-

Milk...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Butter.	...	...	...	...	...	1
Margarine...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tea ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Table Jelly.	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ice Cream...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Doughnuts...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Medicines...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tinned Meat.	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whisky..	...	...	...	...	...	2
Orange Squash	...	...	...	...	...	1
Jam...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total						<u>25</u>

For the fifth year in succession all the samples taken in the Borough were satisfactory in every respect.

SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The number of cases of infectious disease reported during the year was as follows:

Gastro - enteritis 2, Measles 1.

Vaccination and Immunisation: The following particulars of vaccination and immunisation carried out during the year have been supplied by Dr. C.M. Smith, County Medical Officer of Health to whom I am indebted:-

Smallpox Vaccination.

	<u>Under 1.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>2-4.</u>	<u>5-14.</u>	<u>15 or over.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Primary	29	6	-	1	-	36
Re-vaccination.	-	-	-	5	15	20

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

								<u>3rd Injs.</u>	<u>4th Injs.</u>
<u>Under 1.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>	<u>5-9.</u>	<u>10-14</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>15 or over</u>	
4	19	10	2	1	13	6	55	63	222
									254

Diphtheria Immunisation.

	<u>Under 1.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>2.</u>	<u>3.</u>	<u>4.</u>	<u>5-9.</u>	<u>10-14.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Booster.</u>
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Immunisation only	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Combined diphtheria/ Whooping cough	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Triple	16	5	2	-	-	3	2	28	10
Total diphtheria Immunisations	16	5	3	-	-	3	2	29	78
Whooping cough only.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Number of Children who have completed a full

Course of Diphtheria Immunisation.

<u>Age at 31.12.61.</u> <u>i.e. born in year.</u>	<u>Under 1.</u> <u>1961.</u>	<u>1.</u> <u>1960</u>	<u>2.</u> <u>1959.</u>	<u>3.</u> <u>1958.</u>	<u>4.</u> <u>1957.</u>	<u>5-9.</u> <u>1952.</u>	<u>10-14.</u> <u>1947</u>	<u>Total.</u> <u>Under 15.</u>
						<u>1956</u>	<u>1951</u>	
Number immunised	10	16	34	47	25	180	214	526

Tuberculosis: There were no new cases of tuberculosis reported during the year. The numbers of cases on the Register at the end of the year were as follows:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary... ..	3	1	4
Non-Pulmonary	1	-	1
Total.. ...	4	1	5

